



7820 Arlington Expressway Suite 400 Jacksonville, FL 32211-7445 Phone: (904) 232-2640

Fax: (904) 232-1014

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 09 -02

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Vessel Security

The Captain of the Port Jacksonville, Florida would like to remind vessel owners and operators of the importance of good vessel security. In a recent incident in Miami, Fl unauthorized persons gained access to a vessel while underway from a pilot ladder left down and unattended. This was not related to a terrorist act, but it highlights a possible weakness in vessel security.

If such incidents occur or you witness any suspicious activities please contact the U.S. Coast Guard - National Response Center (NRC). The NRC has established the following telephone number: **800-424-8802**, for use by the Maritime Industry to report actual or suspected terrorist incidents.

Upon notification of a potential terrorist incident, the NRC will connect the caller to the FBI's Strategic Intelligence and Operations Center (SIOC), who will then coordinate with other agencies to perform an immediate assessment of the threat credibility. This single point of contact will enhance public safety and security in the port while minimizing the disruption to vessel and port operations caused by an actual or suspected terrorist incident.

For additional information please call Lieutenant Molly Wike at (904) 232-2640 ext. 134.

M. M. ROSECRANS Captain of the Port Jacksonville, Florida